# South Carolina Human Affairs Commission April/May/June 2019

#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to eliminate and prevent unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations and promote harmony and betterment in the lives of South Carolina's residents.

### Vision Statement

The South Carolina **Human Affairs** Commission's Vision is to be well known with a positive image and a mission that is understood and accepted by the public. SCHAC is a fully resourced, customer-friendly Agency with a diverse, well-trained and efficient team working together effectively in a safe and supportive work environment in fulfillment of the Agency's mission.

### Panel Discussion About Race in Rock Hill

The first in a series of talks about race was held on March 21 in Rock Hill. That day is significant as it is recognized as the *International Day for the Elimination of Racial* 



Discrimination (End Racism Day). This annual event is a way we can help our communities celebrate the differences in others - such as race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability and religion. We hope that people throughout the state will have the opportunity to learn about South Carolina's diverse citizenry through these talks. We also hope that a dialogue will begin that will lessen the hate fueled by fear and lack of knowledge through interaction and education.

The panel was made of up of an ethnically diverse group of individuals from the Rock Hill community. The moderator was Dr. Jennifer Gunter, Executive Director of the SC Collaborative on Race and Reconciliation. After the discussion Gunter said, "these discussions are fundamental to changing our society." Natasha Pauling of the SC Association of Community Action Partnerships commented, "each panelist is to be applauded for making a difference by sharing their experiences so boldly, and with such depth of knowledge."

Three panel discussions will be held this year in North Charleston, Florence and Aiken. The Commission's partners in this endeavor are SC Collaborative on Race and Reconciliation and the SC Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc.

Above & Beyond the Call of Duty

SCHAC in the Community

SCHAC employees have a history of volunteering their time to promote the Commission's mission and contribute to the state's citizens in various ways and we applaud them.

ANITA DANTZLER, who is the Commission's Community Relations and Outreach Director, recently joined the Race, Equity and Inclusion Collaborative and is an active board member of a local non-profit that works with youth who are interested in becoming entrepreneurs.



On March 19, SARAH GABLE, staff attorney, provided an interactive an evening training to members of the First Nazareth Church in downtown Columbia. The training focused on sexual harassment complaints, fair housing complaints, and best practices for employers and housing providers alike. Similar courses are made available to various community groups across the state when the Agency receives a request.

Beginning in January, attorney LEE ANN RICE became a participant in the Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative. "Numbering more than 2066 in summer of 2018, the DLI alumni roster reads like a Who's Who in South Carolina leadership," according to the Furman University webpage devoted to this program.

SHELTON LORICK, NATHANIA ANDERSON, SARAH GABLE, MARTIN SAMUELS, ROBIN RAWLS, STEPHANI FRESE, and EMILY ROUSE have volunteered this year at Transitions.

Pictured below: from October until February, former Pittsburg Public Defender and current SCHAC Intake Officer, CYNTHIA COOKE, worked with Lexington County's Brookland-Cayce High School in coaching its mock trial team through the Regional Tournament held at the Lexington County Courthouse. The case was a criminal murder case, and the students exceled with Ms. Cooke's help.



Many other employees at the Commission frequently go above and beyond the specific job requirements for their position. Our staff is full of truly exemplary public servants.

# Congratulations on receiving your Associate Public Manager Certificate!



pictured l-r: Alex Pate, Latarnya Whitmire and Christina Jordan

Alex Pate won first place in a PB&J sandwich eating contest as part of a fundraiser for Camp Kemo that raised \$400.

Details re: Camp Kemo

https://www.palmettohealthchildrens.org/programs/camp-kemo-programs

### Mentorship Program Summary

Employees who complete the Associate Public Manager (APM) Program as part of a cohort will have the opportunity to take part in a mentorship program.

Agency leadership will be asked to nominate employees who will serve as possible mentors for Associate Public Manager participants. At SCHAC, Commissioner Buxton was a mentor to an employee from PRT, Alex Nelson was a mentor to an employee from Disabilities and Special Needs and Danny Koon, Deputy Commissioner was a mentor to an employee from the Criminal Justice Academy.



# Outstanding Intake formalized 158 charges during

Intake formalized 158 charges during the month of March! Congratulations INTAKE Department! We are all very proud of each of you and this achievement. Angela, Cherry, Cindy, Emily, Venisha and Alex worked tirelessly to reach this goal.





Hollis Burnet loves the outdoors and is from Spartanburg. While growing up, he enjoyed hiking, playing on the Cottonwood Trail or playing with his dogs. He obtained the Eagle Scout rank while in high school, and is a graduate of the University of South Carolina. While at UofSC, he worked as a page at the



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South Carolina Statehouse. His dog Rey loves going to the Noma dog park. Hollis began employment with the SCHAC in February 2019 and has loved every minute. Stephani Frese is a recent addition to the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, serving as the Director of Technical Services. She has approximately nineteen years of experience in the equal opportunity field. In her previous employ at the SC Department of



Employment and Workforce, she was responsible for investigating complaints of discrimination, conducting compliance reviews of federal funding recipients, reviewing policies and procedures, and providing equal opportunity training to WIOA federal funding recipients in South Carolina.

### United Way Recognizes SCHAC!

Accepting the Award for Highest Participation Rate in the United Way Charitable Giving campaign is Lee Ann Rice. Also pictured l-r is: Jerry Adger of SC Probation, Parole & Pardon and Molly Spearman of State Superintendent of Education.



## Mother Emanuel Nine Day

The South Carolina General Assembly passed a Concurrent Resolution declaring June 17th as "Mother Emanuel Nine Day" and as a result, the SC Human Affairs Commission will host the "Mother Emanuel Nine Day Remembrance." This year, at Allen University the commemoration will be on June 4th at 11:00a.m. in Columbia.

We are asking all State Agency Heads, EEO Officers, staff and the general public to attend this hourlong event honoring the lives lost at the Mother Emanuel AME Church. The program will reflect on the progress made in improving race relations and economic equality for minorities.

> June 4, 2019 11:00a.m. Chappelle Auditorium on the campus of Allen University



#### SOUTH CAROLINA HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION



Raymond Buxton II
Commissioner

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### Procedimiento de Quejas

Si usted piensa que ha sido discriminado en la vivienda o en el empleo, debe ponerse en contacto con la Comisión de Asuntos Humanos. La Comisión investigará su queja y si hay una violación de la ley, la Comisión puede ayudarle a conseguir soluciónes legales a los que usted tiene derecho. Si es necesario, la Comisión puede llevar casos de discriminación a una audiencia o a la corte. No importa su estado legal, la Comisión lo ayuda.

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